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# The Washington Bee.

Terms. \$2.00 Per year in Advance.

5 cents per copy.

VOL. VIII.

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1889.

NO. 24

## WHAT I SAW AND HEARD.

"I told you so," is a common expression to be heard on every street corner. Each of these knowing ones when asked last week how Virginia was going gave it up as a nut too hard to crack, but now they know it all.

I often wonder at the reckless disregard of common sense and decency of those who write letters to news papers. Their names in print seem to actuate most of them. I doubt not that many of them would like to recall some of the many cruel and unbecoming things said. Truly, "fools venture where wise men dare not tread."

The address of the Baptist ministers led by Prof. Simmons has the true ring, and President Harrison no doubt finds in the predicament of the man who had the white elephant. (What to do with the Negro is the question that confronts our Executive, and yet it is not what shall be done with the Negro, but what shall be done with and to those white men who deny us our rights. Settle them and the question is at an end.

Prof. W. J. Simmons addressed the young people of the Second Baptist Church last Sunday afternoon. In the course of his remarks he scorched the dude, who he said, parted his hair in the middle with a fool on either side. "Such fellows," he continued, "will go down South and endeavor to lord it over the people there, believing them lacking in common sense, and when the people reject them because of their tomfoolery, they return back here and tell you the colored people will not be taught. What we need in the South is intelligent men and women. Regular hustlers who will sympathize with the people and show them how to take advantage of their opportunities. For every such young man and woman there is a great future before them. The South is reserved by God as a field where our people are to raise themselves to the level of the whites and where they will become a grand and glorious people." Those who heard him were very much delighted at what he said.

I must say that the Republican party contains some of the biggest up-heads to be found on this side of the Atlantic. When out of power they make all kind of extravagant promises to the colored brother as to what they will do, but once in, they are suddenly struck with a convenient forgetfulness. Before election they tell us if we will stand by them and help them elect the ticket we shall be cared for in preference to any Democrat, and that the latter shall not control appointments. Yet Commissioner Raymond is allowed to dictate who shall remain and who shall go. Raymond gulls these men with a plausible little yarn that is swallowed with alacrity and so keep in office, men who voted against our candidates. Where is the common sense and justice of our Republican leaders? Where is that political sagacity they are wont to boast of? They certainly either have none or they are a set of cowards. To suppose that the colored men of this day and time, with their increased wealth and intelligence are going to continue their support to men who make deception a profession, is an error and they will wake up some morning after an election to find that they are mistaken. The colored voter is contrasting his treatment with that meted out to the Irish and German voter, and he fully understands that his vote is just as potent, when honestly counted, as the white man's, and unless he is accorded the same treatment, he is going to do one or two things, either refrain from voting, or support those who will keep their promises to him. The time has come when promises made us must be as faithfully kept as those made to others. We are doing a little thinking for ourselves, and while we prefer the Republican party, we are unwilling, and will positively refuse to be any longer mere automatons. Our protests must and shall be respected. If Democrats are good enough to hold all the offices then there is no need for the Republican party.

KING MARLEAUX.

## THE BAPTISTS' DEMAND.

THE INDICTMENTS AGAINST SOUTHERN BRUTALITY. THE PRESIDENT APPEALED TO.

The Committees appointed last September by the National Baptist Convention that met at Indianapolis, Ind., representing every State in the Union, met at the "BEE" office last Thursday morning, and formulated their plans for waiting upon President Harrison. The Committees were composed of some of the most learned colored men in this country. The Committee were joined by the local Baptist denominations of this city, consisting of Dr. R. S. Laws, Revs. W. H. Howard, J. H. Lee, R. H. Perter, Harvey Johnson of Baltimore, M. D., and others. The Committee whose names are attached to the following address, was the first Committee to wait on the President: To the President of the U. States.

Mr. President:

Last month in the city of Indianapolis the representatives of more than one million three hundred and sixty-two thousand Baptists met to attend the annual convocations of the General Association of the Western States and Territories, the Foreign Mission Convention of the United States, and the American National Baptist Convention, for the purpose of discussing and devising plans and means for the propagation of the gospel in our own country and elsewhere. These bodies, sir, represent a larger constituency among the colored people of this country than any other denomination of Christians in America.

The peaceable tenor that characterized these annual meetings aforetime was disturbed at Indianapolis by the narration and knowledge of the terrible outrages and mal-treatment that are being perpetrated upon many of our Southern brethren almost daily. These added to the earnest request made in these meetings for prayer to God for the deliverance of our brethren, who were represented in these meetings by preachers of the gospel who were well acquainted with their condition from actual observation, moved every heart among us. As the meetings progressed, the feelings of our delegates were subdued until the Georgia delegation arrived, among whom was the President of our Foreign Mission Convention of the U. States, Rev. E. K. Love, D. D., and Mrs. Jane H. Garnett, several of whom having been terribly mutilated, as the result of a savage assault made upon them by a band of ruffians at Baxley, Ga., who dragged and drove them from the cars, for no other ground than that they were riding in a first-class car as their tickets entitled them, assaulting them with stones, clubs, knives, pistols and other deadly instruments. When our brethren saw with their own eyes these unmistakable evidences of oppression, knowing these delegates from the State of Georgia as distinguished far and near as peaceable, honest, well educated, temperate gentlemen, and realizing that things were coming to a terrible pass when our ministers of the gospel find it unsafe for their lives and persons to visit our annual gatherings to assist in their humble way in solving the problems of America, strong men were moved to copious tears. The Baptist bodies then in mass meeting assembled, appointed us without a dissenting vote as a Committee to memorialize the President of the whole people, voicing the sentiments of the delegates present and those of our people, laying before the President our grievances and asking him to bring our wrongs to the attention of Congress for the most thorough and impartial investigation and for the enforcement and enactment of appropriate laws for the protection and security of our people.

Mr. President, we are simply ministers of the gospel. We come not as partisans and hence have no selfish ends to subserve. Our object here is simply to voice the oppression of a guileless and inoffensive people and to lay before the nation and the chief Executive thereof a case that demands a settlement upon no other basis than that of justice. That we are a peaceable people and desire to live and cultivate peace with our white neighbors are manifested from two considerations. First, our National Baptist bodies, preferring that before we make any appeal to any

sublunary power, we commit our cause into the hands of a just God did set apart the third Sabbath in October in all of our Churches, as a day of fasting and prayer to the God of Nations for the deliverance of our brethren from oppression and outrage, for the State and National governments under which we live, and for the very men who would shoot us down: Second, in all of these massacres, lynchings, outrages and intimidations, the negroes are recorded as the sufferers and victims, while the white men escape with rarely an exception.

The people we speak for are averse to a race conflict and are giving vent to a spirit of retaliation, preferring rather the vindication and protection of the laws impartially administered and the commitment of our cause into the hand of him who enjoined upon us, "avenge not yourselves, vengeance is mine, I will repay." Our grievance, Mr. President, is a real one. The American people have learned that within the last three months, more than one hundred negroes have been brutally slaughtered in Mississippi.

They are aware of the inhuman butchery of colored people in Louisiana for the last twelve months along with the burning down of our churches and school houses; of the intimidation and banishment of colored officials, elected by a legal authority in Crittenden County, Arkansas and Fort Bend, Co., Texas, of the driving away from home and family of colored editors in the South; of the almost daily lynchings of negroes all over the South upon mere suspicion of crime; of deprivation of our right to vote and of having our votes counted, especially in South Carolina, Mississippi and Louisiana, and of the brutal, barbarous assault upon quiet, intelligent, sober, and defenseless colored preachers in Georgia, added to the mid-night raids to the homes of inoffensive negroes near Atlanta, Ga., for the purpose of stripping them of their clothes and lacerating their bodies till blood flows, "for the fun of it," as they say.

The news papers even from those localities, have acquainted the Nation with these outrages. There is a reign of terror, Mr. President, in several of our Southern States that is unparalleled since the days of kluksukism. We are at a loss to account for it; unless it is the result of desperation of bad men disappointed in their political aspirations and desires and aggravated and impelled by inflammatory editorials on the imaginary danger of Negro domination and the recital in Southern newspapers of the probability of some Negro uprising or race war here and there, when no such probability ever existed, would avenge themselves upon the Negro as the most willing and ready victim; or the attempt of some thoughtless malignant persons to drive the Negroes to the desperation of precipitating a race conflict in order that the whites well organized, armed with Winchester rifles and backed by the State governments may exterminate the Negroes who are unorganized, unarmed and defenseless, and thus solve what they are pleased to call the Race Problem of the South. In either case it is systematic, well devised and deep laid conspiracy to injure the Negroes who desire no race trouble. We do not claim, Mr. President, that these outrages come from the better class of whites in the South or have their sanction; for there is a progressive part of our white fellow citizens in the South who depreciate such flagrant and high handed outrages. But that element of our citizens, we apprehend, is in the minority, inasmuch that the public opinion of the dominant class is one of which our Southern States sustains with applause, its chief Executive in making requisitions throughout the country for the delivery of prize fighters for punishment, while it is mute and indifferent to the preconcerted and systematic slaughter of more than 100 negroes, without due process of law. While it is evident that the sentiment of the progressive class of our white fellow citizens is against these brutalities, yet that sentiment is not sufficiently strong and independent as to force the perpetrators of these crimes to condign punishment. In nearly all of the cases we have mentioned the State officials have not made the least judicial investigation. We have no redress in the courts; for the machinery of the law is chiefly in the hands of the

Continued on 2nd Page.

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